

THE FARMS AND THE RANGES

Edited by
Francis A. Chisholm, County Agricultural Agent

Hog Cholera Still Rages.

Hog cholera continues to be a source of concern among the hog growers of Arizona.

Dr. J. P. Jacks, the extension veterinarian of the bureau of animal industry, stationed in Arizona, who has been steadily on the job since the outbreak co-operating with the state veterinarian and the state live stock sanitary board, last week gave in the press letter of the University a history of the outbreak.

This week Dr. Jacks further summarizes the hog cholera situation:

"Since the first of the year there have been twenty different herds reported that have been badly infected with cholera with a loss of 675 animals prior to treatment. Up to the present time there have been 1784 head immunized in various districts. Outbreaks have occurred in Gilbert, Mesa, Glendale, Marinette, Casa Grande, Litchfield, Globe and Jerome. At the same time twenty demonstrations were conducted on disinfection, sanitation and disposition of dead carcasses, these being the only methods that can be practiced to keep the disease from spreading besides vaccination.

"The recent outbreak seems not to be confined to Arizona alone, but to west Texas, New Mexico and southern California. These states report unprecedented calls for serum and virus from the inspected laboratories. Throwing on the market of fat hogs in this section has resulted in lowering of price for fat hogs which will tend to decrease production—a very discouraging outlook—since the local plants are full of fat hogs and have no large refrigerators in which to cure the meat. One local plant reports having thirteen carloads of fat hogs on hand notwithstanding the fact that their output is usually one carload of pork per week. Growers should exercise precaution with their herds and hold them until late in the spring when the European market is bound to rise in price.

"The livestock sanitary board and the state and federal veterinarians are desirous of having the hearty support and co-operation of the people to successfully combat this disease in order to protect an industry yet in its infancy in this state. Anyone knowing of any infection should report it promptly to the state veterinarian, livestock sanitary board or your county agricultural agent and a prompt investigation will be made and steps taken to stamp out the disease."

Silt Deposits In Reservoirs.

The silt problem in the Roosevelt reservoir is one of particular interest at this time since the question of trouble from silt deposits in the proposed San Carlos dam is under discussion. The probability of serious difficulty in the San Carlos dam from this cause seems rather remote, judging from a report on the silt deposited in the Roosevelt reservoir.

According to the report: "Since the completion of the Roosevelt reservoir in 1910 three surveys have been made to determine the accumulation of silt in the reservoir. The first survey showed a decrease in capacity of about 25,000 acre feet. The second survey showed a decrease in capacity of about 62,000 acre feet. The third, which was made last fall, showed no difference in capacity from the second survey."

Homesteads Will Not Be Taxed.

Regardless of the fact that Arizona courts have ruled in favor of the principle that possessory rights are assessable, no attempt will be made by the state tax commission to tax desert and homestead rights until certificates or patent has been issued, it was stated by Charles R. Howe, member of the commission. The question of possessory rights was an issue in a case just decided by Judge Davis Dyer in the federal court in which William Irwin and 48 other settlers in the Salt River valley reclamation project sought to restrain the county authorities from collecting taxes. The court held that lands upon which proof of residence had been accepted but on which no final certificate or patent has been issued are taxable by the county. In the Wright case, just decided, land in question is adjacent to highly improved and valuable holdings in the east of the Salt River valley. Back taxes in the sum of \$25,000 on the land directly affected are now collectable, and a much larger sum from lands indirectly affected by the decision. There is some talk that the case will be appealed to the United States circuit court at San Francisco. There is also some indication that an appeal will be taken in the Baca Float case to the supreme court of the United States. A short time ago the county attorney of Santa Cruz county wrote a letter to the tax commission, asking if the state could be counted on to stand its share of the expense in defending an appeal, both the county and state being interested in the collection of the back taxes.

Many Rush to Homestead Arizona Land.

Three hundred homestead and desert land applications a month more than the number filed during the same months last year, testifies to the great demand for public lands in Arizona, according to L. G. Rosengren, of the United States land office at Phoenix. Mr. Rosengren believes the vast increase in numbers of those taking up lands is due to inflated price of real estate as well as to the fact that hundreds of returned soldiers are seeking property in Arizona. Many of the disabled soldiers have been advised by physicians to take up homesteads and live an outdoor life, while others are seeking the lands like many, for investments.

"There are many people who came here primarily to file on public lands, Arizona having a vast acreage of surveyed lands in its fourteen counties," said Rosengren. "Seventy-five per cent of those who file on the lands prove up, while 25 per cent relinquish or abandon the property."

Many Make Fortunes.

The same law governing homestead and desert lands is in effect in every state where a continued residence of three years is required with a five-months leave granted each year. One-sixteenth of the area must be cultivated during the second year, and an eighth of the area beginning the third year.

While the statutory life of an entry is five years, Mr. Rosengren stated that a number of entrymen had made fortunes in cotton, while snug fortunes had been made in alfalfa.

The approximate amount of surveyed land in the state, he gave as 7,142,565 acres and stated that the acreage of national forests was 12,076,769, with about the same area given to Indian reservations. Unsurveyed lands in

Arizona, he said, numbered 13,572,220 acres.

Unsurveyed Land in State.

The approximate area of surveyed land and its character in the different counties was given as follows: Apache, 528,033 acres, mountainous, arid, timber; Cochise, 396,939, mountainous, grazing, timber; Gila, 35,718, arid, broken; Graham, 352,483, mountainous, grazing, broken; Greenlee, 99,372 acres, mountainous, grazing, broken; Maricopa, 962,346, arid, grazing, broken; Navajo, 332,640, arid, grazing, broken; Pima, 646,859, mountainous, arid, grazing; Pinal, 683,085, arid, grazing; Santa Cruz, 52,562, mountainous, arid, grazing; Yavapai, 532,606, mountainous, grazing, broken; Yuma, 785,034, arid, grazing, broken.

Animals Remember Signals Long Time.

OAKLAND, CAL.—That animals have traits and habits which they hand down for three or four generations, has been proven to the satisfaction of Thomas Carneal, owner of a large ranch in the Livermore Valley, near here.

Carneal says that a whistle originally used to call a dog, now deceased sixteen years, is obeyed today by descendants of a herd of sheep.

During the life of the dog the sheep learned that a whistle meant that they were wanted at home. When called by the whistle the dog drove his flock from the hills to the ranch barns.

When the dog died the shepherds continued the use of their whistle system of calling the flock, and the old sheep with their lambs came scampering home. As the young grew and became parents of other generations the tradition of the whistle was handed down.

Arizona Wild Horses Celebrate in Frisco.

Last summer Nonie C. Barnard, a well known stockman of Tucson, Arizona, sold 60 head of wild range horses, commonly known as "broom-tails," for shipment to San Francisco for slaughter. Some of this shipment gave the cowboys a merry time in Frisco. A cowboy's story of the exciting wild horse chase down the streets of the Bay City is repeated as it was told to a cattleman reporter by C. U. Pickrell, extension animal husbandman of the University of Arizona.

"It was necessary," said the cowboy, "to drive the animals some three or four blocks from the stockyards in Butcher Town, South San Francisco, to the plant of the company purchasing the horses. Twelve well mounted cowboys were with the herd but even this strong guard proved inadequate for some of the stronger lovers of Arizona's desert freedom.

"When the nearby hills came into view some ten head broke away down a side street, at a rate of speed far in excess of the mounts of the cowboys. Two of them were turned back toward the herd, but they did not stop there. On they went right into San Francisco Bay, swimming out to an island a half mile distant. It is believed by those who witnessed the affair that these two range ponies broke the record for long distance swimming for horses. The feat was more unusual when one considers that their desert range life had not given them special training in swimming.

"The remaining eight runaways scattered into as many directions. Finally all but one was captured in various city retreats, such as flower gardens, chicken yards and blind alleys. One ringleader of the group was more persistent in his struggle for freedom and was for a time given up as lost.

"In the course of a couple of days the purchaser received notice from a resident of a nearby precinct that one of his horses was being held in a small

enclosure and the removal of the animal was very much desired. Two cowboys were despatched to the scene but the horse was too quick for them. He knew what was up as soon as the cowboys drew near. The enclosure proved too fragile and once more this cayuse sniffed the air as he was wont to do when he roamed the ranges of the Arivaca Cattle Company in Arizona. He wished to demonstrate to California horses what a real live Arizona horse could do when he came to town.

"The chase took horse and pursuer through more yards and alleys until he was finally crowded down the stair way into a basement. The chase would have probably ended there had not the basement door been open. Hiding among a stock of mahogany furniture stored in the basement our renegade of the desert proceeded to kick out the mirror of a handsome wardrobe before he was finally captured.

"That fine haired furniture was too much for an Arizona broomtail," said the cowboy, as he finished his story of the chase.

Wool Prices on Decline.

Since November, 1918, the prices of wool have declined in comparison with the same month of the preceding year. The highest average price reached was 60 cents per pound in March and April, 1918, since which time the prices fell to as low a figure as 47.9 cents in April, 1919. In January, 1918, the average price was 58.1 cents; January, 1919, 55.2 cents; and in January, 1920, 53.3 cents. The producers' price of 16.7 cents per pound in 1913, advanced to 58 cents in 1918, and fell to 51 cents in 1919. These figures are in accordance with reports received by the bureau of crop estimates of the United States department of agriculture.

Stage-struck Maiden (after trying her voice)—Do you think that I can ever do anything with my voice?
Stage Manager—Well, it may come in handy in case of fire.

National Forest Timber for Sale.

Sealed bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor, Flagstaff, Ariz., up to and including April 26, 1920, for all the merchantable dead timber standing or down, and all the live timber marked or designated for cutting on an area embracing about 80 acres within Section 6, T. 20 N., R. 8 E. G. & S. R. B. & M., on the north side of Walnut Canyon, Coconino National Forest, Arizona, estimated to be 200,000 feet more or less, of western yellow pine timber. No bid of less than \$3.75 per M. feet for yellow pine will be considered. Deposit with bid, \$100. The right to reject any and all bids reserved. Before bids are submitted, full information concerning the timber, conditions of sale, and the submission of bids should be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Flagstaff, Arizona.

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AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Every Arizona community should have a "Wild Flower Day" while the blossoms are beautiful in the hills and on the prairies.

A large delegation from all western states is expected at the "League of the Southwest" meeting in Los Angeles, April 1-2-3. Big problems of the southwest will be discussed by speakers of national reputation. Dr. R. B. von Klein Smid is president of the organization.

D. W. Albert, of the horticultural department of the college of agriculture, assisted ranchers and development companies in Pinal county in drawing up landscape plans for tree and shrub planting this spring.

A farmer, Mr. Gallagher, near Casa Grande on the Florence road, is planting out 350,000 grape cuttings leading to the planting of a 160-acre vineyard, according to County Agent Wilbermuth. The varieties are principally Malaga and Thompson Seedless. Others in the locality are starting vineyards.

The "pomegranate high-ball" is the latest. California horticultural authorities believe that the pomegranate is destined to "come back". A pomegranate grove in Arizona may be a coming financial success.

About 2000 acres will be farmed to cotton on the Colorado river Indian reservation, at Parker this year, according to Extension Director E. P. Taylor, who has just returned from a trip into that section with County Agent Longstreth.

The Navajo Indians of Arizona have coined a new word for automobile. It is "Sinnapachugy" and means "a wagon that goes with a chug."

Arizona will require 20,000 cotton pickers, many of whom will be brought from Mexico by the Arizona Cotton Growers' association. There will be times when 300 to 400 will enter through Nogales daily, according to Secretary W. H. Knox.

"Plain Mary," a Maine state Jersey, has broken the world's Jersey record, producing 15,255 pounds of milk and 1040 pounds of butter fat in one year.

American Consul F. J. Dyer has cabled Washington from Nogales that he has unofficial advice that Mexico will henceforth prevent further exportation of hides into the United States.

County Agent Hamilton, of New Mexico, has recently purchased in the Salt River Valley 86 head of dairy cows for his farm bureau members. These cows were all tuberculin tested by Dr. R. J. Hight, of the state livestock sanitary board.

Patty Farley, of Jerome, was a re-

cent Salt River Valley visitor, obtaining a carload of feeder hogs from H. N. Zenor, south of Tempe. Before shipment Farley had Dr. James P. Jacks, veterinarian of the federal bureau of animal industry, working in co-operation with the livestock sanitary board and the extension service, inoculate the hogs for cholera so that there would be no losses later on. Farley says "vaccination is good insurance and will absolutely keep one from losing hogs with cholera. A while back I lost two and three head per day until I totalled 64."

Commenting on the animals purchased from Zenor, he stated, "I consider them good individuals and will be back in June for another carload just like them."

HERNE IS HELD FOR DISHONESTY

PHOENIX.—W. W. Herne, who said he was a lieutenant in the Royal flying corps and who was secretary of the war camp community service here early last year, has been taken into custody in Holbrook, Ariz., pending the arrival of a warrant from Phoenix charging embezzlement of \$80, according to information given out at the office of the county attorney here. A warrant was issued by the county attorney's office here, Assistant County Attorney Herman Lewkowitz said, on complaint of "Sailor" Brown, an entertainer who devoted his efforts to the war camp community service and to the soldiers' and sailors' club which preceded the American Legion post here. Brown alleged, according to the assistant county attorney, that he collected \$80 for the benefit of a sick member of the club, turned over the money to Herne, and that the latter misappropriated it to his own use. A deputy sheriff was sent to Holbrook from here to serve the warrant and bring Herne to Phoenix, according to the sheriff's office.

Herne was employed at one time on the Leader here and afterwards on the Williams News.

INJURED BOY RECOVERING

Albert Michaelbach, the youngest son of Peter Michaelbach, who was struck by a passing freight train east of Flagstaff last week and badly injured, is reported as improving and on the way to complete recovery. For a time the doctors held out but little encouragement, but a decided change for the better came at last. Mr. and Mrs. Michaelbach are very grateful to the friends for their assistance to the boy at the time of the accident.

SHINERS REMOVED

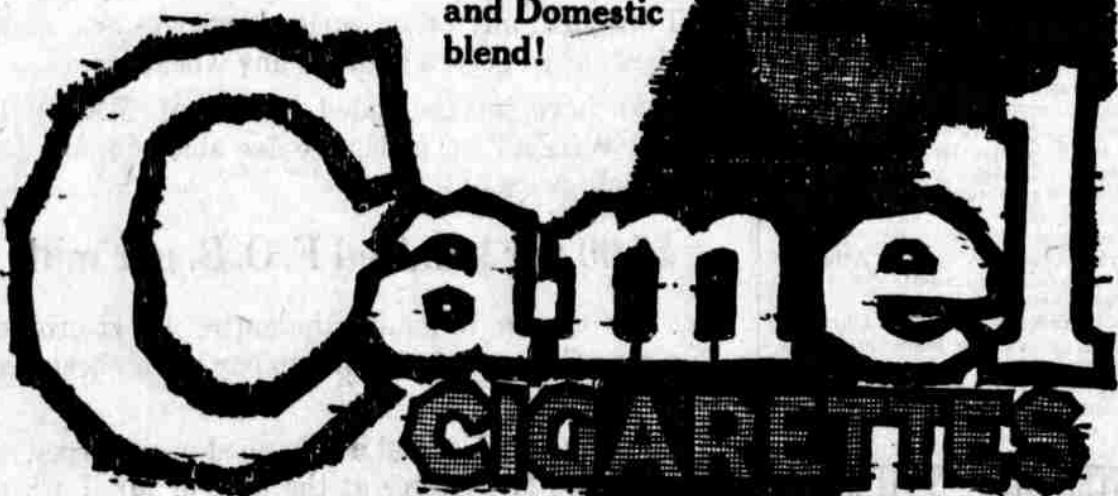
Ike—Mike, you just ought to see my girl. You know she has the most kissable mouth and her teeth are like the stars.

Mike—They come out every night, eh?

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